What is claimed is:

1) A method of implementing a progressive meter system that does not require a
central controller comprising a network of monitors of gaming apparatus
connected to a communication network and communicating with each other by
exchanging an electronic data packet of a predetermined format.

2) The method of claim 1 in which all monitors of gaming apparatus communicate
upon a peer-to-peer basis and in which no master or central controller is included.

3) The method of claim 1 including the steps of:
   a) Broadcasting a parameter block of a predetermined format to all monitors
   connected to a network.
   b) Updating said parameter block according to immediate conditions existing
   at each monitor.
   c) Broadcasting an updated parameter block from each monitor to the entire
   connected network of monitors.
   d) Updating immediate operational parameters at each monitor based upon
   the updated parameter block received.

4) A method of implementing a bonus payment system that does not require a
central controller comprising a network of monitors of gaming apparatus
connected to a communication network and communicating with each other by
exchanging an electronic data packet of a predetermined format.

5) The method of claim 4 in which all monitors of gaming apparatus communicate
upon a peer-to-peer basis and in which no master or central controller is included.

6) The method of claim 4 including the steps of:
   a) Broadcasting a parameter block of a predetermined format to all monitors
   connected to a network.
   b) Updating said parameter block according to immediate conditions existing
   at each monitor.
   c) Broadcasting an updated parameter block from each monitor to the entire
   connected network of monitors.

    d) Updating immediate operational parameters at each monitor based upon the updated parameter block received.

7) A method of implementing a bonus payment system that does not require a central controller comprising a network of monitors of gaming apparatus connected to a communication network and communicating with each other by exchanging an electronic data packet of a predetermined format and in which determination of a random bonus amount to be paid or offered for payment upon compliance with predetermined conditions is performed within a monitor connected to a gaming apparatus to which said bonus payment is to be assigned.

8) The method of claim 7 in which a calculation is performed by a monitor connected to a gaming machine to determine amount of a bonus to be paid to a player of said gaming machine

9) A method of paying a progressive win in which a portion of said progressive win is paid immediately and a remainder continues to pay out as reset of gaming apparatus connected to a progressive meter system is accomplished; payout of win continues while monitors connected to said progressive system are not confirmed to be updated to a reset value and amount available for payout increases as monitors are confirmed updated to said reset value.

10) The method of claim 9 in which display of payout of a progressive win is displayed as a total that continues to update as monitors connected to a progressive system are confirmed to be adjusted to a predetermined reset value.

11) A method of playing an auxiliary game upon a gaming apparatus by means of a connected secondary apparatus that has no dependency upon the outcome of the game played upon the gaming apparatus to which said secondary apparatus is connected.

12) The method of claim 11 in which the secondary apparatus includes a display device, includes means to totalize an amount wagered at a gaming apparatus to which said secondary apparatus is attached, includes means to determine conclusion of a game upon a gaming apparatus to which the secondary apparatus is attached, includes means for generating random numbers, and includes means

for calculating a value to determine a game outcome based upon consideration of values of said generated random numbers in a predetermined formula.

13) The method of playing a bonus game of claim 11 in comprising:

a) If number of game plays of maximum bet in a play sequence is less than a predetermined maximum, choosing a random number in accordance with a predetermined selection process and mapping said random number to a symbol in accordance with a predetermined mapping process.

b) Displaying a generic icon to a player as a placeholder to allow progress of said bonus game to be ascertained.

c) Displaying symbols mapped to said random numbers chosen at each maximum bet played in (a) above to said player when a predetermined number of maximum bet plays has occurred.

d) Display bonus game award in (c) above to the player of the bonus game and accrue any award due the player in a nonvolatile memory location in a monitor attached to the gaming apparatus.

e) Allow the player to collect accrued bonus game winnings at a time of his choosing.